

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 5-12 and 15-22 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by Campau. Claim 23 has been rejected under § 103 as being obvious over Campau in view of Gerlach. Claims 3, 4, 13 and 14 have been deemed allowable.

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections of the claims, and requests reconsideration of the claims, as amended.

Claim 1 has been amended to provide that water flows out of the drain opening "when the level of water in the delay chamber reaches the level of the drain opening". Claim 12 has similarly been amended to provide that the drain opening is "elevated in the delay chamber", and the "water flowing out of the drain opening upon rising to the level of the drain opening". The Campau patent fails to meet these limitations of claims 1 and 12.

More particularly, in Campau, the drain opening 48 is below the level of the floor of the delay chamber 53, as seen in Figures 2-4 and as designated by the Examiner in paragraph 2 of the Office Action. In Campau, water does not flow out of the chamber upon reaching the level or elevation of the drain opening 48, but rather must rise to the level of the top of the U-shaped tube 40, as described at column 5, lines 39-45.

Accordingly, independent claims 1 and 12 distinguish over Campau so as to be in proper form for allowance. Claims 2-11 depend from claim 1 and claims 13-22 depend from claim 12, and should be allowable as depending from an allowable base claim.

Independent method claim 23 has been amended similarly to claims 1 and 12. More particularly, claim 23 provides that the chamber has an elevated drain opening, and that the water drains from the chamber "when the water level in the chamber rises to the level of the drain opening in the chamber". Campau does not meet this limitation, as discussed above with respect

to claims 1 and 12. The Gerlach published application cited in combination with Campau in the rejection of claim 23 does not overcome the deficiencies of Campau. Therefore, claim 23 also distinguishes over the cited references so as to be in proper form for allowance.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests that a Notice of Allowance be issued.

No fees or extensions of time are believed to be due in connection with this amendment; however, consider this a request for any extension inadvertently omitted, and charge any additional fees to Deposit Account No. 26-0084.

Reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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